

Woods Hole Historical Collection  
P.O. Box 185  
Woods Hole, MA 02543

REGISTER  
Lydia Howes Collection  
Joseph Howes Branch  
dates

3 Boxes

## HISTORY

The **Lydia Howes Collection** is one of two Howes family collections. The people who donated the material in the Lydia Howes Collection are descendents of Jotham (formerly Edmund Sears Howes) Howes and his wife Lydia Butler Davis which connects them with the vast Davis family of Woods Hole. The family home was a store built for Captain Thomas G. Davis at the top of Main (Water Street) in the 1840s. The various branches of the Howes family in Woods Hole were involved in many commercial enterprises and stores in Woods Hole from the mid-19<sup>th</sup> to mid-20<sup>th</sup> centuries, namely (1) Howes & Davis building and store on the location of Dyer's Dock on the south side of Main (Water) Street in the 1870s (C.E. Davis was the coal dealer and customs officer as well), (2) the T.E. Howes store which existed serially in two locations on the west side of the drawbridge and (3) H. Milton Howes' store (Howes Market), which was on the present site of Pie in the Sky Bakery on upper Main (Water) Street until the 1960s.

The second Howes Collection (Levi Anthony and descendents James Sturgis Howes), otherwise known as the "**Howes Sea Captains Collection**" is the origin of WHHC's two Ship's Logs of the *Amulet* and *Hippogriffe*, written by Captain Anthony Howes of East Dennis in the 1840s and 1850s. His descendents eventually came to Woods Hole and lived in a house on the current MBL site on lower Water Street. They were also captains.

*The Howes genealogy is very large and all trace their ancestry to Thomas Howes and his wife Mary Burr. Three branches descended from them, from sons Joseph, Thomas and Jeremiah Howes. Lydia Howes is descended from Joseph. The Howes Sea Captains (Anthony, Levi Anthony and James Sturgis) are descended from both Joseph and Thomas.*

The **Lydia Howes Collection** was donated to the WHHC by Virginia Crowell Jones, daughter of Lydia Crowell Howes Drew, in memory of Lydia's mother Bessie Crowell Howes.

## SCOPE

The Lydia Howes Collection contains extensive genealogy of the Howes family on Cape Cod, some of it in formal lists or books, and some contained in informal notes. There were several branches of the family locally and since the branches often intermarried, the origin of some of the modern descendents is complex. The Howes also married into many of the Cape's prominent families; therefore there is genealogy information on those families as well. One entire box is devoted to genealogy.

There is a photo album of the mid to late 19<sup>th</sup> century with many images of the Howes family and also of Woods Hole families, related and unrelated to the Howes themselves.

In addition to the genealogy information and the photo album, the remainder of the Lydia Howes Collection contains two account books of the firm Howes & Davis of Woods Hole, which existed during the 1870s on Main (presently Water Street) as mentioned above.

## **LYDIA HOWES COLLECTION**

### **BOX 1**

#### **ADMINISTRATIVE AND GENEALOGY**

- 1-1. Administrative (includes genealogy)
  - a. Obsolete box list
  - b. Handwritten note. Unfinished letter from Mrs. Philip D. Drew to Curator Wadsworth Atheneum, Hartford, Connecticut, July 15, 1966.
  - c. Postcard. Postcard from Ruth Sherman to Mrs. Philip D. Drew, May 20, 1968.
  - d. Handwritten letter. Letter from Virginia Crowell Howes Jones to Jennifer Gaines about the donation of the collection, April 22, 1986.
  - e. Typewritten ms. Howes (Lydia) Collection. Scope note for collection, written by Jennifer Gaines.
  - f. Handwritten notes. Notes on items donated in the collection and items copied and returned.
  - g. Typewritten ms. Original Box 1 list, written by Jennifer Gaines.
  - h. Handwritten notes. List of Howes businesses in Woods Hole.
  - i. Handwritten notes (copy). Genealogy notes and notes of items owned by Virginia Jones.
  - j. Handwritten notes. Questions about Jotham Howes.
  - k. Handwritten notes. Handwritten genealogy for Jotham Howes and siblings, descendants with notes.
  - l. Handwritten genealogy. Partial genealogy for Davis and Howes families.
  - m. Handwritten notes. Origin of collection and questions.
  - n. Family Tree Maker genealogy chart: Descendants of Jabez Davis
  - o. Family Tree Maker genealogy chart: Descendants of Thomas Howes
- 1-2. Pedigree sheets. Pedigrees of Howes and other families, including Mayflower line. Xerox copies.
- 1-3. Correspondence between Lydia Crowell Howes Drew and Daniel Chase, 1968, concerning genealogy.
  - a. Typed letter. Letter of July 15, 1968, 2 pages, from Lydia Drew to Daniel

- Chase (copy).
  - b. Typed letter. Letter of July 26, 1968, 2 pages, from Daniel Chase to Lydia Drew (copy).
  - c. Handwritten letter. Letter from Lydia Drew to Daniel Chase, November 5, 1968.
- 1-4. Miscellaneous information on various Howes family members.
- a. Marriage certificate. Marriage certificate (copy) of the marriage of Jotham Howes and Lydia B. Davis, December 7, 1870, Church of the Messiah, Woods Hole.
  - b. Baptism and Confirmation certificates (copies).
    - 1. Baptism of Lydia Crowell Howes, 1919, at Church of the Messiah, Woods Hole.
    - 2. Confirmation of Lydia Crowell Howes, 1931, at Tisbury, Martha's Vineyard, by Samuel G. Babcock, Bishop of Massachusetts.
  - c. Newsclipping. "West Tisbury Nonagenarian Observes an Anniversary", Unknown newspaper, November 6, 1967 (copy). *About Joseph E. Howes, Father of Lydia Crowell Howes (Drew)*.
- 1-5. Information on Vineyard Descendents of Howes Family.
- a. Typewritten letter. Typewritten copy of handwritten letter (?), December 10, 1857, from Lot Howes to son Captain W. Howes. Handwritten note on envelope: "Grandfather Lot Howes letter to his son William". Envelope addressed to H.H. Bodfish, postmarked 1930.
  - b. Handwritten notes. Lineage of Howes Bodfish from Thomas Howes and Mary Burr. Original and copy.
  - c. Newsclipping. Obituary of Howes Bodfish, October 9, 1967. Unknown newspaper. Copy.
  - d. Newsclipping. Obituary of Theodore Howes, Vineyard Gazette, n.d. Copy.
  - e. Newsclipping. "Wendy Howes Is Bride In Nantucket Wedding". Cape Cod Standard-Times (?), n.d. Copy.
- 1-6. Published genealogies (I).
- a. Pamphlet. Library of Cape Cod (No. 36), History & Genealogy. *Early Chatham Settlers*, By William C. Smith. Yarmouthport, Mass, 1915.
  - b. Pamphlet. Library of Cape Cod (No. 105), History & Genealogy. *Barnstable Town Records*. Yarmouthport, Mass. 1912.
  - c. Pamphlet. Library of Cape Cod (No. 61), History & Genealogy. *A Genealogist's Letter-Book, Correspondence of Amos Otis Relative to Colonial Ancestry II*. Yarmouthport, Mass. 1913. Handwritten notes included.
  - d. Pamphlet. Library of Cape Cod (No. 62), History & Genealogy. *A Genealogist's Letter-Book, Correspondence of Amos Otis Relative to Colonial Ancestry III*. Yarmouthport, Mass. 1913. Handwritten notes included.
  - e. Pamphlet. Library of Cape Cod (No. 33), History & Genealogy. *Early Settlers*

of Eastham. Yarmouthport, Mass. 1916.

f. Handwritten notes. Notes culled by Lydia Howes from D.A.R. Patriot Index. Copy.

1-7. Published genealogies (II).

a. Pamphlet. Library of Cape Cod (No. 90), History & Genealogy. *Covel*, By James W. Hawes. Yarmouthport, Mass. 1912.

b. Pamphlet. Library of Cape Cod (No. 51), History & Genealogy. *Deacon John Doane and The Doane Family*, By Hon. John Doane. Yarmouthport, Mass. 1914.

c. Pamphlet. Library of Cape Cod (No. 67), History & Genealogy. *The Hall Family of Yarmouth*. Yarmouthport, Mass. 1913.

d. Pamphlet. Library of Cape Cod (No. 47), History & Genealogy. *The Yarmouth Families of Eldredge*, By Amos Otis. Yarmouthport, Mass. 1914.

e. Pamphlet. Library of Cape Cod (No. 101), History & Genealogy. *Genealogies By James W. Hawes, Eldred Eldredge*. Yarmouthport, Mass. 1912.

f. Pamphlet. Library of Cape Cod (No. 31), History & Genealogy. *Thomas Howes of Yarmouth, Mass and Some of His Descendents....*, By James W. Hawes, Esq. Yarmouthport, Mass. 1917.

g. Pamphlet. Library of Cape Cod (No. 37), History & Genealogy. *Stephen and Giles Hopkins Mayflower Passengers and Some of Their Descendents Including An Eldredge Line*, By James W. Hawes. Yarmouthport, Mass. 1915.

h. Booklet. *The Royal Lineage of the Hamlins*. 1909.

1-8. Published genealogies (III).

a. Pamphlet. Library of Cape Cod (No. 76), History & Genealogy. *The Lombards of Truro*. Yarmouthport, Mass. 1912.

b. Pamphlet. Library of Cape Cod (No. 81), History & Genealogy. *The Matthews Family of Yarmouth*, By William Proud Davis. Yarmouthport, Mass. 1912.

c. Pamphlet. Library of Cape Cod (No. 91), History & Genealogy. *Nickerson. Children of William (I) Nickerson.*, By James W. Hawes. Yarmouthport, Mass. 1912.

d. Pamphlet. Library of Cape Cod (No. 102), History & Genealogy. *Genealogies By James W. Hawes. William Nickerson*. Yarmouthport, Mass, 1912.

e. Pamphlet. Library of Cape Cod (No. 98), History & Genealogy. *Genealogies By James W. Hawes. Ryder*. Yarmouthport, Mass, 1912.

f. Pamphlet. *Genealogy, Sparrow Family, 1623-1871*.

g. Pamphlet. Pamphlet. Library of Cape Cod (No. 75), History & Genealogy. *s The Taylor Family of Yarmouth.*. Yarmouthport, Mass, 1912.

1-9. Typewritten manuscript. *Genealogy of The Howes Family in America, Descendents of Thomas Howes, Yarmouth, Mass. 1637-1892 With Some account of English ancestry by Joseph Crowell Howes, Dennis, Mass.* Printed For The Author by Fred. Hallett, Yarmouth, Mass. 1892. Handwritten notes included.

- 1-10. Genealogy of related families (informal).
- a. Handwritten notes (copies). Nickerson-Doane genealogy.
  - b. Handwritten notes (copies). Crocker genealogy.
  - c. Handwritten notes (copies). Jones genealogy.
  - d. Handwritten notes (copies). Weeks genealogy.
- 1-11. Howes captains and Shiverick ship information. Handwritten notes and copies.
- 1-12. Information about the Prence House, Eastham.
- a. Booklet. *The Mayflower Quarterly*, August 1967. Includes material on the Prence house, p. 72.
  - b. Pamphlet. Library of Cape Cod (No. 9), History & Genealogy. *The Prince-Howes Court Cupboard*. Yarmouthport, Mass. 1927.
  - c. Photograph. Governor Prence House, Eastham, Mass. External view from Southwest. Photo before 1880, copied by HABS. Library of Congress. Black and white, 8 x 10 inches.
  - d. Handwritten letters. Correspondence from Mrs. Horace P. Lowe, Eastham Historical Society, to Mrs. Sherman, 1967. Copies.
  - e. Handwritten letter. Letter from Lydia Howes to Robert M. Sherman, n.d.
  - f. Typewritten letter. Letter from Lydia Crowell Howes Drew to Muriel C. Southworth, September 2, 1967.
  - g. Typed letter-manuscript. Society of Mayflower Descendants (from Mrs. Robert M. Sherman, Secretary-General), August and September 1967. Copy.
  - h. Typed letters. Letters to and from Mrs. Robert M. Sherman, Secretary-General, General Society of Mayflower Descendants, to Mrs. Philip D. Drew, Jr. (Lydia Crowell Howes Drew), about the Prence house, February to May 1968.

**BOX 2**  
**GENEALOGY OF HOWES FAMILY 1637-2004**  
**BOOK**

2-1. Book. *Howes Genealogy 1637-2004*, by Robert Arthur Howes.

*This is the up-to-date printing of the typewritten ms. In Box 1 (Catalog 1-9).*

**BOX 3**  
**PHOTO ALBUM AND ACCOUNT BOOKS**

- 3-1. Photo album. Howes photo album, brown calf with raised design, 7 x 8 ½ inches, 2 ½ inches high. 19<sup>th</sup> century photos, cartes-de-visite.  
*This album has been digitized: File Numbers 1037-1060. People identified in album are also identified on back of notebook prints (Notebook/CD 31). Many of the subjects are of the Davis family and other Woods Hole residents.*
- 3-2. Miscellaneous photos and images.
- a. Three negatives (Howes house in Dennis)
  - b. Photo. Little Harbor, Woods Hole. Poor copy photo. Marked on back:  
Photo by Baldwin Coolidge (INCORRECT!). Copy made by Mystic Seaport. *Photo was actually done in 1870s, before Coolidge was working here..*
  - c. Unidentified drawing of a ship being built.
- 3-3. Photos. Xerox copies of large cabinet card photo of Captain Thomas G. Davis house, Number 3 Water Street. Lydia Davis married Edmund Sears (Jotham) Howes. *Original photo is filed under Davis (D). Digital image file number 1061.*
- 3-4. Ledger. Account book by date for Howes & Davis, Woods Hole, February 11, 1874 to 1876 (no month or date).
- 3-5. Bills and stationary. Old Colony Railroad. Originally inserted near the end of ledger 2-4.
- a. Freight receipt, September 27, 1875.
  - b. Blank stationary.
  - c. Stationary with figures, “30 days from Aug 15 – 1876”.
- 3-6. Ledger. Alphabetical ledger pages followed by accounts listed by name February 11, 1874 to 1875 or 1876?